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The lecture-table is large and roomy, and is abundantly supplied with water and gas. It is ventilated by powerful down draughts and movable box-hoods. Directly back of the table, and opening into the preparation-room, is one of the large hoods before mentioned. Connected with the preparation-room is a small dark room for the storage of chemicals. These rooms serve also as apparatus and store rooms for the laboratories on this floor.

Leaving the lecture-room from the opposite corner from which we entered, and passing through the laboratory and study of the professor of chemistry, we come to the balance-room and library. This room is very well supplied with books of reference and the current periodicals, having complete sets of the *Berichte, Fresenius Zeitschrift, Chemical News, American Chemical Journal, Centralblatt*, and others. No special room has been set apart for collections. It is the intention to utilize the corridors for this purpose.

The tables (Fig. 5) in each student work-room, except laboratory

accommodate ten students each. Besides table-supply, each laboratory has a large sink for use when large quantities of water are necessary. Distilled water is furnished on each floor. The building is heated throughout by steam from a central station in the main building. Fire-protection is afforded by sections of hose on each floor, connected with a standpipe which passes up through the centre of the building from basement to attic.

We have now been in occupancy about one year, and feel well satisfied with our arrangements, though some matters of detail await the necessary funds to carry them into effect.

H. H. NICHOLSON.

#### Answers.

11. LAKE ITASCA.—Rev. William T. Boutwell of Stillwater, Minn., several years ago, wrote for the Minnesota Historical Society the following account of the naming of Itasca Lake: "Coming to Mackinac in the summer of 1831, I received an invitation to spend the following

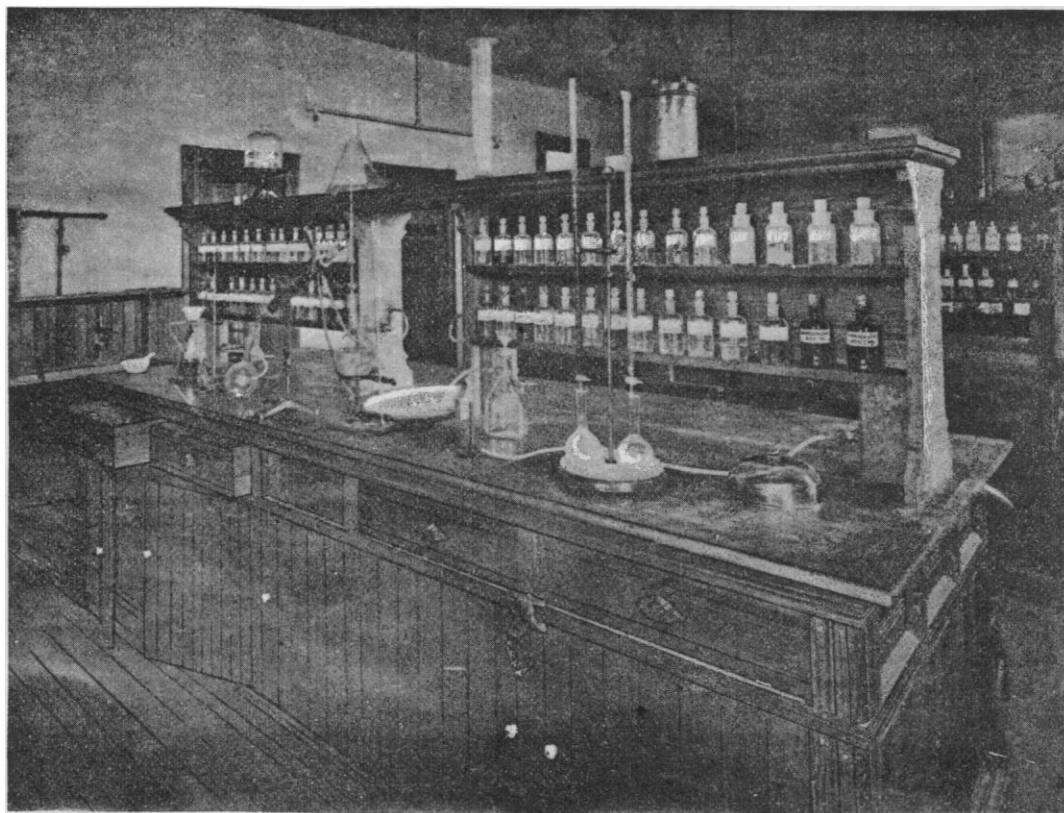


FIG. 5.

B, are ten feet long, four wide, and three feet and three inches high. Four students use one table; each having at his disposal, for storing his apparatus, two large drawers and two roomy cupboards, all secured by a single lock. Each student has two gas connections and an abundant supply of water.

The arrangement for water-supply is different from that usually employed. Instead of two basins placed at the ends, one large oval basin, twenty-one by sixteen inches, is sunk in the centre of the table, its long diameter across the table, and is supplied from two taps, one at each side. This arrangement has the advantages of being economical, convenient, and neat.

The work-places are numbered consecutively in each laboratory, and are supplied with sets of re-agent bottles, bearing, in enamelled letters, the name of the re-agent and the number of the desk. The stopper of the bottle bears a number corresponding to the one on its body. By this means a bottle out of place can be easily relocated, and the transposition of stoppers is inexcusable.

In laboratory B, tables are similarly equipped, and constructed on same general plan, except that they are twenty-six feet long and

winter at Sault Ste. Marie. There I made the acquaintance of Mr. Schoolcraft. Early in the spring of 1832, he received instructions from the government to visit the bands of Indians on the Upper Mississippi, and also to ascertain the true source of the river. He very kindly invited me to accompany him. Now for the origin or derivation of the name 'Itasca.' One morning we were coasting Lake Superior. Mr. S. said to me, 'I would like to give a name to Elk Lake that will be significant or expressive of the *head*, or *true source*, of the Mississippi. Can you give me any word in Latin or Greek that will convey the idea?' I replied, 'No one word will express the idea. The nearest I can come to it is *verum caput*, or, if you prefer the noun *veritas*, you may coin something that will meet your wishes.' In less than five minutes he replied, 'I have got the thing,' handing me a slip of paper on which was the word 'Itasca,' remarking, 'This is not poetic license, but you will find it, as you progress in the study of Ojibwa, to be Indian license. It was then and there, and in just this manner, that the name 'Itasca' was coined."

J. FLETCHER WILLIAMS.

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 3.